Irregularities by A.H. Wheeler and Company

†363. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale irregularities are being committed in the name of a recognised book-seller of A.H. Wheeler and Company;

(b) if so, the full details of the irregularities done so far/being done by A.H. Wheeler and Company;

(c) whether Government propose to conduct an enquiry against the Company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken against the Company and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However during the last three years, few petty irregularities *viz.* book vendors not present in uniform, vendors without valid medical certificate, display of unstamped books and magazines and not displaying railway time tables in a proper way etc. have been reported against M/s A.H. Wheeler and Co. For these acts of commission and omission M/s A.H. Wheeler and Co. has been imposed fines wherever justified.

Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation

364. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation has started functioning to improve catering services in the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. has commenced business in the current year. The Company has invited expression of interest for development and management of food plazas at railway stations and for on board catering services.

(c) Does not arise.

Cost of Lanjigarh-Junagarh line

365. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the Lanjigarh-Junagarh line in Orissa;

(b) the funds allocation made for that project, so far; and

(c) the details of progress of that project, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Rs. 119.29 crore at present.

(b) Rs. 16.49 crore.

(c) Out of the total project length of 55 km. land has been acquired for a length of 32 km. from Lanjigarh to Bhawanipatna, where the earthwork and bridge-work are in progress. Earthwork has been completed for a langth of 8 km.

Relocating the Headquarters of South-Western Railway

366. SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 756, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th July, 2000 and state:

(a) what is the progress regarding re-locating the Headquarters of the proposed South-Western Railway from Bangalore to Hubli; and

(b) by when the Hubli Division is likely to start working?